

[Embargoed till Friday, 5 April 2019, 10.55 am]

Media Release



4 April 2019

News Editor

ADULT LEARNING BEGINS AT THE WORKPLACE

- **20 employers join South West CDC to drive lifelong learning in their organisations as South West SkillsFuture Advice Partners – Close to 70 workshops and activities held in more than a year to help 2,500 employees start their lifelong learning journey**
- **Leading MNC and SME to share their growth mindset and SkillsFuture journeys at South West Speaker Series to encourage a future-ready community**

When it comes to lifelong learning, supportive employers make a difference in employees' efforts to upskill and explore their passions. This is the case for the staff of 20 corporates that believe in the importance of continual learning and invest in building a workplace culture for their staff to do so. These corporates will be recognised for their efforts by **Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies**, at Celebrate SkillsFuture Advice (SFA) @ South West.

Recognising Corporates' Efforts to Encourage Lifelong Learning

2 South West SkillsFuture Advice Partners is the first community initiative to officially recognise corporates supportive of SkillsFuture and appoint them as

partners for deeper collaboration. Spanning various industries and including small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and multi-national corporations (MNCs), these Partners will forge closer partnerships with the South West Community Development Council (CDC) to promote the spirit of lifelong learning in their organisations and the larger community. Over the past one and a half year, these Partners and South West CDC introduced 2,500 employees to SkillsFuture and lifelong learning journey through close to 70 workshops and activities. Some of these partners include Grab Singapore, Jurong Port, Mediacorp and Marina Bay Sands.

3 HP Inc., for example, has organised nine SFA workshops for their staff to be aware of the various SkillsFuture initiatives and encourage employees to tap into these to enrich their learning. As part of a Memorandum of Understanding¹ with the South West CDC, HP Inc. has also introduced HP SkillsFuture & Growth Mindset Ambassadors. 130 employees within the organisation have taken up this role to take the lead in continual learning and influence by example. These Ambassadors have been trained on SkillsFuture-related knowledge and resources, to serve as touchpoints within the staff body for guidance and amplify the lifelong learning mindset through a peer-to-peer approach. As a result, more staff are taking courses on their own and organising group courses on a monthly basis. More than 400 HP Inc. employees have participated in these self-driven activities. A total of 150 HP SkillsFuture & Growth Mindset Ambassadors would be trained by this year.

4 “Encouraging sustainability, diversity and inclusion is core to our values and is essential to making lives better within our local community,” said Mr. Ronnie Lee, Managing Director, HP Inc. Singapore. “As a global company, we believe in creating a culture built on a growth mindset and lifelong learning. Through our values, we are pleased to continue our partnership with South West CDC to support Singapore’s success as a leading global economy.”

¹ The South West CDC and HP Inc. signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 10 May 2018 to establish a strategic collaboration in addressing emerging community needs, including ensuring readiness for the future.

5 Service Quality Centre is another South West SFA Partner that has made the effort to encourage lifelong learning among its staff and the wider community. Mr Nolan Tan, Chief Executive of Service Quality Centre, says, “Service Quality Centre is dedicated to help our people in their continuous learning and improving their skills. We are supportive of SkillsFuture as it is in line with our efforts in providing opportunities for people to develop their fullest potential throughout life, regardless of their starting points. Feedback has been very encouraging. Many have shared that they benefitted from the soft-skills learnt in class when put to good use.”

Corporates Engage in Sharing Session on SkillsFuture

6 South West SFA Partners and interested corporates will also have the chance to tap the brains and wisdom of a leading MNC and SME, as part of the South West Speaker Series². Focusing on SkillsFuture as one of the five (5) South West Future Plan³ pillars, the series will share about their growth mindset approach, efforts and initiatives to bring SkillsFuture into their organisation, with the aim of sparking new insights and perspectives. HP Inc. will be sharing on the company’s learning-driven culture, and Mao Sheng Quanji Construction will be sharing on how the company empowers its employees to learn and upskill independently.

7 Mayor of South West District Ms Low Yen Ling says, “We are heartened to have the support of corporates that recognise the value of fostering a culture of lifelong learning in their companies. As South West SkillsFuture Advice Partners, they not only invest in the future and skills of their staff, they cultivate a positive learning mindset which is key to helping our workers face the rapid transformation brought by technology, environment and demographic changes. These partners have shown that it’s possible to start a pro-learning attitude in the workplace. When we combine our efforts, like in this initiative, we can achieve a wider learning culture

² Launched by Speaker of Parliament Mr Tan Chuan-Jin in 2018, the South West Speaker Series is a series of dialogue sessions to engage the wider community in building a future-ready South West District.

³ The South West Future Plan aligns with the national priorities to address evolving social needs and to future-proof our residents. The other four pillars are namely SGCares, SG Health, SG Secure and Sustainable Singapore.

across different sectors and society so as to create more resilient workers, companies and communities.”

8 Booths would also be set up by business associations to share and showcase information that would benefit corporates. Celebrate SFA @ South West is co-organised by the South West CDC, SkillsFuture Singapore and Employment and Employability Institute (e2i).

9 Details of the event are as follows:

Event : Celebrate SkillsFuture Advice @ South West 2019
Date : Friday, 5 April 2019
Time : 9.50 am to 11.30 am **(Media is invited at 9.40 am)**
Venue : Jurong Town Hall, Auditorium (Level 1)
9 Jurong Town Hall Road
Singapore 609431
Guest of : Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam
Honour Deputy Prime Minister &
Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies
Host : Ms Low Yen Ling
Mayor of South West District

10 We would like to invite your reporter and photographer/TV crew to **Celebrate SkillsFuture Advice @ South West**. Interviews can be arranged upon request. Please contact our media liaison officer for queries. We look forward to receiving you and your crew/photographer.

Media Liaison Officers

Ms Leong Pei Xin
Manager (Corporate Management &
Communications)
South West Community Development
Council
DID: 6551 9290/ Mobile: 9231 4085
Email: Leong_Peixin@pa.gov.sg

Ms Yin Khay Wai
Manager (SkillsFuture Advice)
South West Community Development
Council
DID: 6551 9241
Mobile: 9623 7982
Email: Khay_Wai_Yin_from.TP@pa.gov.sg

PROGRAMME

Time	Programme
9.50 am	Arrival of Host Ms Low Yen Ling Mayor of South West District
10.00 am	Arrival of Guest of Honour (GOH) Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam Deputy Prime Minister & Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies
10.05 am	Address by Host
10.15 am	Address by GOH
10.25 am	Appointment of South West SkillsFuture Advice Partners
10.45 am	South West Speaker Series for SkillsFuture <u>MNC Sharing by HP Inc.</u> By Mr Lionel Chng, Chief of Staff <u>SME Sharing by Mao Sheng Quanji Construction</u> By Mr Choo Jun Wei, Executive Director
11.05 am	Celebrate SkillsFuture Advice @ South West Exhibition Tour 1) Nanyang Polytechnic- Asian Culinary Institute 2) ROHEI Corporation 3) SME Centre @ Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce 4) SME Centre @ South West 5) Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce Business 6) Smart Nation Office <i>*Media interview can be arranged upon request</i>
11.30 am	End of Programme

About the South West Community Development Council (CDC)

The South West Community Development Council (CDC) was formed on 24 November 2001, with the mission to Assist the Needy, Bond the People and Connect the Community.

Through local help programmes, the South West CDC provides assistance to help the less fortunate in our community. The CDC also organises projects and programmes to promote community bonding and social cohesion. The South West CDC adopts the "Many Helping Hands" approach to encourage community ownership among residents, community partners and corporations to realise its vision of "Owning Your Community".
